






YORKLANDS GREEN HUB
Opening green doors to the future.



Welcome to the Yorklands community update!

Yorklands Community Update, 14 November 2025

November is here, and Yorklands moves in step with the changing season. With new volunteer opportunities and updates, there's always something in store for you.

  **Small Change Fund** - We're pleased to announce our new Small Change Fund partnership. Help realize the next chapter for Yorklands, together.

 **Volunteer Opportunities** - Looking to get involved while supporting our local environment? Check out our new YGH volunteer positions below.

  **Request for Testimonials** - Fill out our testimonial form and tell us how the YGH has touched your life. It only takes 60 seconds, or less.

Thank you for your support,
The Yorklands Team

Revive the Yorklands: A Community Vision for Nature and Belonging

At the Yorklands, native plants now thrive beside old prison walls. We imagine a living classroom deeply rooted in reconciliation, biodiversity, and climate action. Where youth lead nature walks, newcomers grow food, and Indigenous Elders share stories with students in the shade of heritage trees. With your support, this future is within reach.



  Small Change Fund Partnership

Big news for Yorklands Green Hub!

We are joining forces with Small Change Fund on a fundraising campaign called [Revive the Yorklands: A Community Vision for Nature and Belonging](#).

Together, we're creating a model of urban conservation that upholds biodiversity, fosters healing and reconciliation, and strengthens climate resilience.

A place where nature, learning, and community thrive for everyone.

Your donations will support year-round community programming and help us hire two new essential staff members. Funds also drive our efforts to keep the Ontario Reformatory lands protected as public greenspace. If you donate to our joint project, you will receive a tax receipt through the charitable organization, Small Change Fund.

Join us in bringing this vision to life —watch the video and visit our website.

 Website: [Revive the Yorklands: A Community Vision for Nature and Belonging](#)

 Video: [Watch below to learn more](#) 

For further information, please contact us at: info@yorklandsgreenhub.ca






Volunteers Needed!

Join our team and make a difference in our community!



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 We're Recruiting Volunteers!

Are you passionate about the environment and making a positive impact on our community?

We are seeking enthusiastic volunteers to join our **Event Planning Committee** and **to plan our monthly walks at Yorklands**. We're also looking for a volunteer to take a key role in planning **Seedy Saturday!**

What You'll Do

- Assist in coordinating Seedy Saturday and themed walks at Yorklands
- Help with logistics, outreach, set-up, and promotion
- Apply your creative ideas to craft memorable experiences
- Build valuable skills and connections in a friendly environment

Who We're Looking For

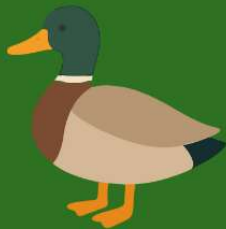
- Community-minded individuals who enjoy working with others
- People who are organized, creative, or eager to learn, with a Canva skill set
- Individuals familiar with event planning and/or environmental issues/gardening
- Available for meetings and tasks leading up to and on events, including Seedy Saturday, March 28

How to Get Involved

-  **If you're interested or have questions, please reach out to info@yorklandsgreenhub.ca by 2025-11-26.**
 -  **Apply here: <https://yorklandsgreenhub.ca/volunteer-form/>.**
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Help Save Kortright Waterflow Park Lands




In the 1970s, Guelph leaders and the GRCA bought the former Frank Kortright Waterfowl Park lands to protect them forever as parkland. **In June 2024, the GRCA approved a plan to sell 20 acres, betraying that original vision and the public investment behind it.**

Guelph already faces a parkland deficit of over 174 hectares by 2051, the size of five Riverside Parks. Selling green space now will only worsen crowding and reduce the quality of life.

These lands were bought with 30–40% municipal funds, 50–60% from the province, and just 10% from the GRCA. Once purchased for \$2,750 an acre, they're now worth nearly \$1 million each: \$20 million in total. But their true value as protected green space for future generations is immeasurable.

How you can help?

-  Phone or write to the [Guelph City Council](#)
 -  Write a letter to the [Guelph Mercury Tribune](#)
 -  Learn about the history of the Frank Kortright Waterfowl Park and Niska lands
 -  Spread the word to your family, friends, and neighbours — every voice strengthens the movement.
 -  Take action online: <https://getinvolvedguelph.ca/>
-



In Flanders fields the poppies blow Between the crosses, row on row

Au champ d'honneur, les coquelicots Sont parsemés de lot en lot

ôta Flanders misipaskwâkanihk wîwîpâstaniwa nôtin'tô lî flârr tastawâyihk tâ lî krrwâ î-ohpiqihki

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**êkotî Flanders opaskwâwihk anihi mihko-wâpikwaniya ohpikinwa
tastawâyihk ayamihêwâhtikwa, nahinikêwina mîna nahinikêwina**

在法蘭德斯戰場·虞美人迎風怒放 開放在十字架之間·一排排一行行

في حقول الفلاندرز يزهر الخشخاش بين صلبانٍ صفّاً صفّاً مغروسة



Veterans Affairs
Canada

Anciens Combattants
Canada

Canada

Remembrance Day & Veterans' Week

The Yorklands Green Hub extends its respect and remembrance to all who have served and continue to serve. We honour Remembrance Day, Veterans' Week, and Indigenous Veterans Day, taking time this week to reflect on their lasting contributions and sacrifices to Canada.

NEW WEBSITE

Featuring a New Interactive Map!

<https://yorklandsgreenhub.ca>



Website Updates

We're happy to share our [updated website](#) with you!

Visitors will see our refreshed logo, interactive map, and improved layouts. All these updates aim to enhance the YGH experience.

The [new interactive](#) map highlights key landmarks across Yorklands and showcases historical information about the former reformatory lands — a great companion for your next hike or walk!

See the changes for yourself. Check out the links below. [↓](#)

[!\[\]\(9ea682cef02bbbdc0191f78cdae1d433_img.jpg\) YGH Website](#)

[!\[\]\(30072721fe92392a2d7c953be68f714a_img.jpg\) Interactive Map](#)

**How has YGH
affected your life?**

**Do you have a
testimonial
you want to share?**





**TELL US HOW IN 60
SECONDS!
SCAN THE QR CODE TO
BE DIRECTED TO THE
SURVEY!**



“Yorklands Green Hub has positively impacted me by deepening my connection to nature and strengthening my sense of community. Walking the trails and witnessing the transformation of this historic site into a place of ecological renewal has been both grounding and inspiring...”

*Kim Wakeford,
Membership Coordinator*

  Tell Us Your Testimonials!

If interested, please fill out the form below and share your experiences! Your responses are extremely valuable for the YGH.

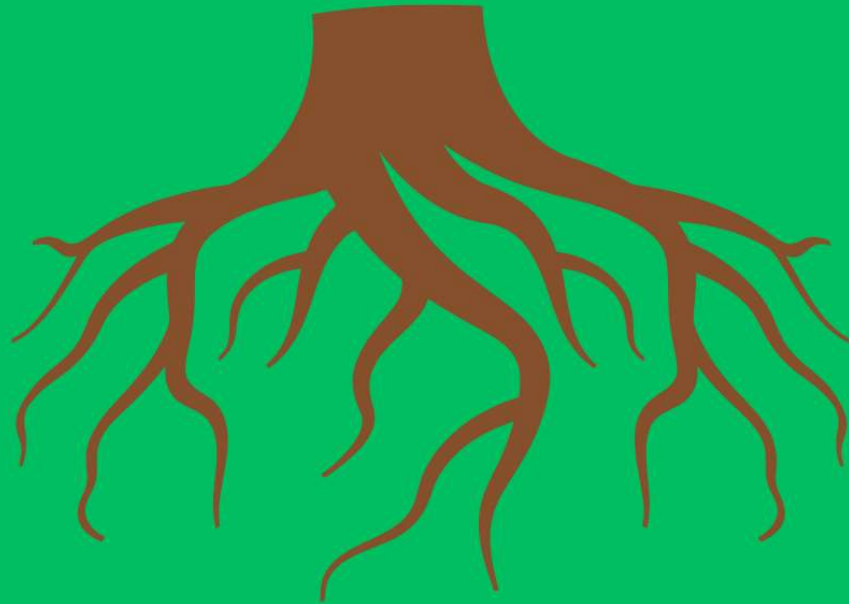
Link to the form is here: <https://form-can.keela.co/testimonial-form>



We've decided National Volunteer Week is too short to celebrate all the wonderful people that make our work possible. Every week we'll be introducing you to some exceptional YGH volunteers in each bi-weekly e-blast. This week we're pleased to introduce our Environmental Education Advisory Committee Chair, Abigail Walton!

"Abigail Walton is a first year student at the University of Guelph, currently studying Environmental Sciences. She has a deep passion for environmental advocacy, community involvement, and outdoor education."

WE'RE ROOTING FOR YOU TO JOIN!



Become a member today

Join our community of members dedicated to preserving the Yorklands site and cultivating a greener, more sustainable future for all. **We're rooting for you!**

Scan the QR code to join!

Scan & Learn More!



Become A Member: Preserve and Protect Yorklands

Members are the roots of Yorklands Green Hub. Their contributions nourish Yorklands, helping it grow and flourish.

By becoming a member, **your donation fuels initiatives that make Yorklands thrive.** They protect the historic Yorklands site, connect people to nature, uphold Indigenous collaboration, and champion environmental education.

Each membership strengthens our efforts to create a more environmentally conscious community.

We offer **both monthly and annual memberships with several tiers of support.** Members can select the tier that best fits their interests and capacity. As a token of appreciation, **every membership tier comes with exclusive rewards.**

We're rooting for you to join! Help grow a greener future for all!

Email Kim Wakeford at yghmembershipsecretary@yorklandsgreenhub.ca, scan the QR code above, or click “become a member” below.

A special thank you to our sponsors at the Guelph Museums and The Neighbourhood Group for supporting our membership programs!



[Click here to visit our website](#)

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